

Monday, June 2, 1947

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed bills on extension of rent control, Treasury-Post Office appropriations, and ILO amendment; House adopted conference report on personal income-tax bill and passed 47 measures.

Senate groups acted on judicial nominations, memorial and private claims measures, and Maryland contested-election report.

President's Reorganization Plan No. 2 disapproved by House unit; hearings started on Federal employees' loyalty bill.

See tables on Congressional Activity and Appropriations.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages 6120-6124

Bills Introduced: Four bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1369-S. 1372, S. J. Res. 122, and S. Res. 120. Page 6122

Bills Reported: Bills were reported as follows:

S. 851 and H. R. 888, private relief bills (S. Repts. 213 and 214, respectively);

S. 1125, relating to D. C. property exemption (S. Rept. 215); and

S. 1346, to fix the salaries of D. C. teachers (S. Rept. 216). Page 6122

Bills Referred: The following House-passed bills were referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia: H. R. 494, 1633, 1893, 2470, 3235, 3515, 3547, 3604, and 3611. (For passage in House, see Digest, p. D220.) Pages 6122-6123

Bills Re-Referred: S. 1325, to encourage employment of veterans with service-connected disabilities, was referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, and the Committee on Finance, to which it was originally referred, was discharged from further consideration. Page 6122

Oil and Gas Compact: Both Houses received Presidential message (H. Doc. 288) transmitting a copy of an agreement executed by 16 States, to extend for 4 years from September 1, 1947, the interstate compact to conserve oil and gas. In the Senate this was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Pages 6124, 6179

Rent Control: Senate passed by voice vote H. R. 3203, continuation of rent control, after taking the following action:

Reconsidered and rejected the McCarthy amendment, adopted May 29, requiring decontrol of 5 percent of rental areas each month; adopted by voice vote Senator Holland's amendment on maintenance of action for alleged past violations; the language of the Senate bill, S. 1017, was then adopted in lieu of title II of the House bill; by division vote adopted the proposal of Senator Buck to amend title I restoring administration of rent control to the Housing Expediter; Senator Knowland's amendment, adopted by voice vote, provides continuance of the permit system for amusement or recreation projects and commercial projects other than housing; Senator McClellan's amendment was adopted by voice vote, and would exclude from the controls construction in connection with State fairs; Senator Cain's amendment on veterans' preference for housing was adopted by voice vote; Senator Cordon's amendment, providing funds for building access roads to timber, was adopted by voice vote; Senator Taylor's amendment, to continue rent control as presently existing until June 30, 1948, was defeated 16 yeas to 58 nays; Senator Kilgore's effort to revert to Senator Hawkes' amendment, adopted May 29 and providing for 15 percent increase in rent when tenant and landlord agree on a lease, was defeated by voice vote; Senator Connally's amendment to exempt certain housing completed after March 1, 1947, was agreed to without objection.

A conference was asked of the House and the following conferees appointed: Senators Buck, McCarthy, Cain, Fulbright, and Taylor. Pages 6125-6145

Treasury-Post Office: Senate passed H. R. 2436, Treasury-Post Office appropriations bill, proposing a total of \$3,243,045,173. Committee amendments were adopted as reported, as well as two other amendments

authorizing a study and report to Congress, by the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation on employees necessary to obtain maximum tax returns, and a management study of the Bureau of Customs by an undesignated agency, were approved.

Pages 6145-6149

ILO Amendment: S. J. Res. 117, providing U. S. acceptance of the amendment to the constitution of the International Labor Organization was also approved.

Pages 6124-6125, 6149-6154

Nominations: Received the following nominations: Charles Oliphant, to be Assistant General Counsel of the Bureau of Internal Revenue; Col. Dwight F. Johns, to be president of the California Debris Commission; together with 71 post-office appointments and 48 in the Public Health Service.

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Reports on Committee Meetings

FERTILIZER

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry: The following witnesses were heard in opposition to S. 1251, national soil fertility policy and program: Ralph B. Douglass, vice president, Smith-Douglass Co., Norfolk, and chairman of the executive committee, American Plant Food Council; Charles E. Heinrichs, Virginia-Carolina Corp., Richmond; O. C. Metzger, president, and H. S. Ten-Eyck, vice president, Iowa-Conda Phosphate & Chemical Co., Perry, Iowa. Hearings continue tomorrow.

STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE APPROPRIATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee opened hearings on H. R. 3311, State, Justice, Commerce appropriations bill, with testimony from Commerce Secretary W. Averell Harriman and Under Secretary Foster.

BANK HOLDING COMPANIES

Committee on Banking and Currency: In open hearings on S. 829, to provide for control and regulation of bank holding companies, the committee heard Ben DuBois and Robert S. Beasley, Independent Bankers Association, favor the bill; and Ellery C. Huntington, Jr., president of the Morris Plan Corp. of America, and Arthur J. Morris, former president, oppose the bill. Ethelbert Warfield, of Satterlee, Warfield & Stevens, filed a statement in opposition. Subcommittee meets tomorrow to hold hearing on tin.

ARMED SERVICE PERSONNEL DOWNGRADING

Committee on Civil Service: Subcommittee investigating military personnel downgrading heard Admiral Paul N. Nibecker, Commander Louis E. Schmidt, and Charles Piozet, civilian personnel, all of the Navy Department, discuss the grading of employees and staffing

pattern as applied by the Navy Department. Arthur E. Clark, Signal Corps of the War Department, and Ismar Baruch, classification division, Civil Service Commission, also discussed downgrading problems.

OIL AGREEMENTS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Opened hearings on Anglo-American oil agreements (Executive H, 79th) with testimony from Under Secretary of State Dean Acheson and Dr. Charles Rayner, also of the State Department.

INTERNATIONAL AIR CARRIERS

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce: C. R. Smith, chairman of the board, American Airlines, and John E. Slater, chairman of the board, American Overseas Airlines, testified in opposition to S. 987, to consolidate American flag international air lines. Lt. Comdr. Langdon Marvin discussed the measure impartially. Hearings continue tomorrow.

AIR CRASHES

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce: Committee authorized Subcommittee on Aviation to use technical personnel for investigation of civil air crashes.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS AND PRIVATE CLAIMS

Committee on the Judiciary: In executive session the committee approved the following nominations for reporting to the Senate: Representative Thomason, to be district judge for the western district of Texas; Anton J. Lukaszewicz, to be marshal for the eastern district of Wisconsin; and Albert V. Bryan, to be U. S. district judge for the eastern district of Virginia.

The committee approved eight private claims bills (S. 358, with amendment; H. R. 620, H. R. 1065, H. R. 811, with amendment; H. R. 360, H. R. 723, H. R. 2257, and S. 1032, with amendment). One private bill was referred to the Court of Claims (S. 708). The committee indefinitely postponed consideration of S. J. Res. 26, to amend the Constitution to provide for the election of Representatives for 4-year terms of office.

RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Committee on Public Lands: Senator Downey testified before the Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation in support of S. 912, to exempt certain lands in Colorado, California, and Texas from land-limitation provisions of Federal reclamation laws.

MEMORIALS

Committee on Rules and Administration: In executive session, committee approved the following resolutions:

S. J. Res. 112, to establish commission to draw plans for erecting a Marine Corps memorial in Chicago; S. J. Res. 113, to erect memorial in D. C. to Marine Corps; and H. J. Res. 188, to erect memorial in D. C. to the 1st Infantry Division, World War II.

The committee also approved original resolution with respect to matter offered for printing in the body of the Record, so that such matter will be distinguishable from speeches delivered on the floor of the Senate.

MARYLAND CONTESTED ELECTION

Committee on Rules and Administration: By a vote of 7 to 5, committee accepted the Subcommittee on Privileges and Elections' report on its examination of each of the 6,624 disputed ballots in the recently completed five-counties recount in the Maryland senatorial election contest. This report sets forth a pattern to be followed by challengers for both sides in the recount ordered recently by the subcommittee in the 17 remaining counties of Maryland.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: Fourteen public bills, H. R. 3679-3692; seven private bills, H. R. 3693-3699; and one resolution, H. J. Res. 211, were introduced.

Pages 6220-6221

Bills Reported: Bills were reported as follows:

H. R. 1148, authorizing the issuance of a patent in fee to Spencer Burgess Doyle (H. Rept. 496);

H. R. 1380, amending laws relating to the payment of 6 months' death gratuity to dependents of naval personnel (H. Rept. 497);

H. R. 3583, authorizing payments by Veterans' Affairs Administrator on the purchase of automobiles or other conveyances by certain disabled veterans (H. Rept. 498);

H. Con. Res. 49, expressing disapproval of Reorganization Plan No. 2, of May 1, 1947, transmitted to the Congress by the President (H. Rept. 499);

H. R. 3138, providing for periodic audit of records of the accountable officers of the House of Representatives and the Senate (H. Rept. 500);

H. R. 1974, providing for protection of forests against destructive insects and diseases (H. Rept. 501); and

H. R. 2298, amending the Interstate Commerce Act relating to procedure of railroads not in bankruptcy which may, under specified circumstances, alter or modify their debt obligations (H. Rept. 502).

Page 6220

Tax Bill: By a roll call vote of 220 yeas to 99 nays, adopted the conference report on H. R. 1, reduction of personal income taxes.

Pages 6195-6206

Export-Import Bank: Considered and passed S. 993, providing for reincorporation of Export-Import Bank of Washington after adopting H. Res. 220, rule providing for its consideration.

Pages 6209-6214

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Savings and Loan Associations: Considered and passed H. R. 2798, as amended, thereby amending Home Owners' Loan Act of 1933, regarding State conversion of Federal savings and loan associations, after adopting H. Res. 221, rule providing for 1 hour general debate.

Pages 6207-6208

Capital-Stock Retirements: Considered and passed H. R. 2799, as amended, thereby amending Federal Home Loan Bank and National Housing Acts relative to certain capital-stock retirements, after adopting H. Res. 222, rule providing for 1 hour general debate and waiving all points of order.

Pages 6208-6209

Taxation: Considered and passed H. R. 2872, thereby amending section 4 of the Public Debt Act of 1941 and clarifying its application.

Page 6206

Claims Prosecution: Considered and passed S. 1073 (in lieu of H. R. 3101), which extends the period of time wherein certain executive department personnel is allowed to prosecute claims against the United States.

Page 6206

Holding Companies: Considered and passed H. R. 468, which amends the Internal Revenue Code in respect of distributions by personal holding companies.

Pages 6206-6207

Consent Calendar: Considered and passed the following bills on its Consent Calendar:

H. R. 1556, as amended, providing basic authority for performance of certain functions of the Bureau of Reclamation.

H. R. 174, as amended, amending act providing for civil government of Alaska, thereby permitting gold and precious-metal exploration of navigable streams therein.

H. R. 2229, amending act of June 25, 1938, relating to appointment of postmasters under civil service.

H. R. 673, repealing certain provisions authorizing the establishment of priorities in transportation by merchant vessels.

H. R. 1054, making permanent the additional district judgeship for the eastern and western districts of Missouri.

H. R. 2097, declaring the ownership of timber allotments on the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, and to authorize the sale thereof.

H. R. 3001, as amended, providing further safeguards to the issuance of passports.

H. R. 577, as amended, preserving historic graveyards in abandoned military posts.

H. R. 981, amending act of January 2, 1942, relating to the refund of taxes illegally paid by Indian citizens.

S. 583 (in lieu of H. R. 1831), authorizing exchanges of lands acquired by the United States for the Silver Creek recreational project, Oregon, to consolidate holdings thereon.

H. R. 3143, as amended, authorizing construction and maintenance of Paonia Federal reclamation project in Colorado.

H. R. 1882, for expenditure of funds for cooperation with school board, Walker, Minn., extending public-school facilities to all Indian children in that district.

H. R. 2207, as amended, authorizing Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands within Shiloh National Military Park, Tenn.

H. R. 2545, as amended, providing funds for cooperation with the school board of Moclips-Aloha District to construct a school building in Moclips, Wash., for Indian and non-Indian children.

H. R. 2655, authorizing Secretary of Interior to grant city of Baltimore, Md., a permanent easement for installation of two subterranean water mains across lands of Fort McHenry National Monument, Md.

H. R. 2276, as amended, authorizing expenses of United States Army participation in the next and future Olympic games.

H. R. 3124, authorizing attendance of the United States Marine Band at 81st national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

H. R. 1628, relinquishing to the State of Illinois interest in certain lands comprising the right-of-way of the Illinois & Michigan Canal.

H. R. 195, authorizing the Secretary of War to sell certain lands in Alaska to the city of Sitka, Alaska.

H. R. 3215, as amended, revising the medical departments of the Army and the Navy.

H. R. 1379, establishing the United States Naval Postgraduate School.

H. R. 2693, for the relief of Public Utility District No. 1 of Cowlitz County, Wash.

S. 565, amending section 3539 of the Revised Statutes relative to taking trial pieces of coins.

S. 566, amending section 3539 of the Revised Statutes in respect to deviations in standards and weights of silver coins.

H. R. 325, transferring Blair County, Pa., from middle judicial to western judicial district of Pennsylvania.

H. R. 3151, granting land and water rights in Clark County to the city of Las Vegas, Nev.

H. R. 3197, increasing construction cost and extending repayment period to the United States by the Mancos water conservation district by authority of the Secretary of the Interior.

S. J. Res. 115, as amended (in lieu of H. J. Res. 196), authorizing the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to continue and establish offices in the Republic of the Philippines.

H. R. 2857, extending second-class mailing privileges to State fish and game department bulletins.

H. R. 310, authorizing the Secretary of War to permit delivery of water from District of Columbia or Arlington County water systems to Falls Church or other systems in the metropolitan area of the District of Columbia in Virginia.

H. R. 1714, as amended, excluding certain interns, nurses, and other student-employees in Federal hospitals from the Classification Act and other laws relating to benefits of Federal employees.

H. R. 3587, clarifying the national policy relating to aviation by establishment of a National Aviation Council.

H. R. 3448, amending the Federal Home Loan Bank Act, so as to permit Federal home loan banks to accept mortgages of not more than 25 years' maturity as mortgage collateral for advances to member institutions.

H. R. 2800, as amended, amending Home Owners Loan Act of 1933, liberalizing provisions of loans made by Federal Savings and Loan Associations.

S. 640, as amended, authorizing Secretary of Commerce to sell Weather Bureau property at East Lansing, Mich., to Michigan State College.

H. R. 2005, amending act of April 21, 1932 (47 Stat. 88), authorizing 15-year lease extensions and renewals on lands containing coal and asphalt deposits owned by Choctaw and Chickasaw Indian Nation in Oklahoma.

H. R. 2411, authorizing patenting of certain lands to Public Hospital District No. 2, Clallam County, Wash., for hospital purposes.

H. R. 2852, providing for addition of certain surplus Government lands to Otter Creek recreational demonstration area, Kentucky.

H. J. Res. 167, recognizing uncompensated services rendered the Nation under the Selective Service Act of 1940, as amended.

H. R. 3629 (called up by unanimous consent), transferring of surplus property from the War and Navy Departments to the Panama Canal. Pages 6180-6196

Presidential Message: For details of oil-conservation compact message from the President, see Senate Chamber Action, this Digest. Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. Page 6179

Reports on Committee Meetings

MILITARY

Committee on Armed Services: Personnel Subcommittee met in executive session on H. R. 2536 and H. R. 2537, Army and Navy promotion bills.

Pay and Administration Subcommittee held hearings on H. R. 3254 and H. R. 3174, increased pay for doctors, and heard Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal; Secretary of War Robert Patterson; and Gen. Norman T. Kirk, all of whom testified in favor of the bills.

Full committee will hold hearings tomorrow on H. R. 2313, foreign missions bill, to hear General Marshall.

RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORPORATION

Committee on Banking and Currency: Resumed hearings on continuation of RFC and heard John D. Goodloe, Chairman, Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

Committee also held executive session on commemorative coins.

REORGANIZATION

Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments: Met in executive session and ordered submitted to the House a report expressing disapproval of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of May 1, 1947, transmitted to Congress by the President, and recommending passage of H. Con. Res. 49.

AVIATION—CANCER—SECURITIES

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce: Met in open session and heard Representative Howell, sponsor of H. R. 3509 and H. R. 3510, construction of airport in Alaska; Representative Sabath, sponsor of H. R. 3594, to prohibit communication of false information with respect to securities in certain cases; and Representative Wolverton, sponsor of H. R. 3257, to create a National Cancer Research Commission.

Committee also held executive session for discussion of aviation matters.

SEAMEN'S BILL OF RIGHTS

Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries: Subcommittee on Ship Construction and Operation and

Maritime Labor continued hearings on H. R. 476, to extend certain benefits to merchant seamen, and heard James V. McCandless, Assistant to Commissioner, Maritime Commission; and other representatives of the Commission. Hearings will continue tomorrow.

VETERANS' PREFERENCE

Committee on Post Office and Civil Service: Vursell subcommittee held hearings on H. R. 739, veterans' preference, and heard Admiral P. B. Nibecker, Navy Department; Elroy Halbeck, National Association of Post Office Clerks; Millard Rice, DAV; and C. M. Harvey, Railway Mail Service, all of whom testified against the bill; Herbert Jacobi, American Legion; John C. Williamson, VFW; and Chat Patterson, AVC, all of whom testified in favor of the bill.

RECLAMATION—GUAM

Committee on Public Lands: Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation held hearings on H. R. 1597, to relocate boundaries, and reduce area of Gila reclamation project, and heard E. D. Eaton, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior; State Senator Hugo B. Farmer, Yuma County, Arizona Legislature; and R. H. McElhaney, farm owner and operator.

Subcommittee on Territorial and Insular Possessions held hearings on various bills on government of Guam, and heard John W. Hildring, Assistant Secretary of State; and Harold L. Ickes, former Secretary of the Interior. Mr. Ickes suggested that civil rule be granted for Guam and Samoa.

BILLS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT

(New Laws)

(For last listing of public laws, see p. D222)

H. R. 3029, to provide for the preparation of plans for D. C. courthouse. Signed May 29, 1947 (P. L. 80);

H. R. 236, to permit naturalization proceedings to be held at places other than the office of the clerk of the court. Signed May 31, 1947 (P. L. 81);

H. R. 603, to extend service credits to members of the merchant marine during World War II for homestead-entry purposes. Signed May 31, 1947 (P. L. 82);

H. R. 1844, authorizing the Veterans' Administrator to grant certain easements. Signed May 31, 1947 (P. L. 83);

H. J. Res. 153, providing \$350 million for relief assistance to the people of countries devastated by war. Signed May 31, 1947 (P. L. 84); and

S. 854, to authorize \$35 million for unfinished housing units. Signed May 31, 1947 (P. L. 85).

Résumé of Congressional Activity

The following tables on nominations and legislative activity run monthly in the Daily Digest.

The first table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation, a total of 26,388 having been received, of which 16,012 have been confirmed, as set forth below.

The second table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the House and Senate during this session, January 3, 1947, through May 31, 1947.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS THROUGH MAY 31, 1947

Postmaster nominations, totaling 780, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	None
Withdrawn	11
Rejected	None
Unconfirmed	769
Army nominations, totaling 14,609, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	5,354
Withdrawn	None
Rejected	None
Unconfirmed	9,255
Navy nominations, totaling 9,584, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	9,385
Withdrawn	None
Rejected	None
Unconfirmed	199
Marine Corps nominations, totaling 613, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	613
Withdrawn	None
Rejected	None
Unconfirmed	None
Civilian nominations other than postmasters, totaling 802, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	660
Withdrawn	3
Rejected	None
Unconfirmed	139

Summary

Total nominations received	26,388
Total rejected	None
Total withdrawn	14
Total unconfirmed	10,362
Total confirmed	16,012

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through May 31

	Senate	House	Total
Days in session	84	85	..
Time in session	442 hrs., 20'	346 hrs., 43'	..
Average length of each day's session	5.3 hrs.	4.1 hrs.	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings....	3,329	2,943	6,272
Appendix .....	..	..	2,718
Bills enacted into law	30	55	85
Average number of days to enactment of each bill, from introduction to President's signature .....	..	..	74
Bills in conference .....	..	..	5
Bills through conference .....	..	..	13
Measures passed, total	234	360	..
Senate bills	86	130	..
House bills	54	189	..
Senate joint resolutions..	19	10	..
House joint resolutions..	14	18	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	2	2	..
House concurrent resolutions	4	4	..
Simple resolutions	55	107	162
Measures reported, total	*273	457	..
Senate bills	*118	21	..
House bills	*58	317	..
Senate joint resolutions..	*19	5	..
House joint resolutions..	*14	31	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	*3	1	..
House concurrent resolutions	*4	2	..
Simple resolutions	**57	80	137
Special reports	10	28	..
Conference reports .....	..	..	10
Reported measures not acted on	36	**138	..
Bills defeated	0	1	..
Measures introduced, total	1,624	4,154	5,778
Bills	1,368	3,667	5,035
Joint resolutions	121	210	331
Concurrent resolutions..	16	50	66
Simple resolutions	119	227	346
Quorum calls	180	26	206
Yea-and-nay votes	75	42	117

*This figure includes all measures placed on calendar or acted on by Senate even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 212 reports has been filed in the Senate; a total of 495 has been filed in the House.

**This figure does not agree with the total difference between bills reported and bills passed, because resolutions and bills placed on the House Calendar without having been formally reported were not included in figures of measures reported to the House; the difference of three in the case of Senate figures is due to uncounted bills "laid on the table."

†Thirteen of these were passed in lieu of companion House bills, which were "laid on the table."

